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13th February 1992

JHB/VT/29136

Dear Beverly

Canadian Patent Application No. 555304  
Your Ref: PM 1267 - Our File: 29136

RECEIVED  
PHILIP MORRIS MANAGEMENT CORP.  
LAW & PATENT SECTION

Thank you for your letter of 6 February.

FEB 25 1992

I now enclose a copy of the amendment filed by our associates, which looks satisfactory as far as it goes.

NOTE wait to see  
what I can do about it

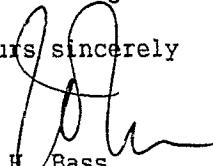
The only further point that could be made is that certain claims defining the specific physical conditions of the solvent appear in relation to both the first (extraction) stage of the overall process and to the second (removal) stage. The use of closely similar conditions in the two different stages emphasizes the very close relationship of these stages, over and above the fact that they both appear in the overall process.

I have given our associates authority to file a supplemental amendment if they think this would help.

I notice your preference for claims to the pre-treatment. However, it seems to me that the groups of claims were wrongly identified by the Examiner because claims 31-37 are also concerned with the pre-treatment and include no detail of the removal process of claim 1. This feature only reappears in dependent claim 38.

In any event, our associates report that, the unity law being so uncertain in Canada at the present time, there is quite a good chance that the present argument will avoid the necessity for division in that country.

Yours sincerely

  
J. H. Bass

cc: Ronald A. Krasnow (Fish & Neave)

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R&G

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